FY2014 Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship (NAT) - HRSA-14-068

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Application Submission Due Dates & Requirements

1. Will there still be two application phases for the NAT program?

Yes, there are still two application phases.

2. What are the specific due dates for each phase?

For FY 2014, Phase 1 applications for the NAT Program are due on/before 11:59pm Eastern Time on Thursday, January 16, 2014 in Grants.gov. Applicants who successfully submit an application in Phase 1 must submit the supplemental information in Phase 2 in the HRSA EHBs which is due on/before 5:00pm Eastern Time on Thursday, January 30, 2014. You are strongly encouraged to submit your application ahead of the application due dates.

3. Does the NAT Program still require submission of the NAT Program Tables?

Yes, the NAT Program still requires submission of the NAT Program Tables in Phase 2 of the application process. The NAT Program Tables have been streamlined in FY 2014 from six to three tables.

4. What are applicants to submit in Phase 1 and Phase 2?

In Phase 1, applicants must submit the SF424 (R&R), Project / Performance Site Location(s) and, if applicable, the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) to Grants.gov.   The SF-424B Assurances for Non-Construction Programs form is no longer included. The applicant certifies to the list of certifications and assurances in Item 17 on the SF-424 (R&R) form. The SF-424 (R&R) package used is the Short Form (no budget forms).

In Phase 2, applicants must submit NAT Program Tables 1, 2A, and 2B, the Biographical Sketch, Project Abstract, the Project Narrative, NAT Attachments 1-5, and NAT Attachments 6-15, if applicable.

NAT Program Tables (all counted in the 45 page limit):
- Table 1 – NAT: Enrollment, Traineeship Support, Graduate, Graduates Supported and Projected Data
- Table 2A – NAT: Graduate Data – Rural, Underserved, or Public Health
- Table 2B – NAT: Graduates Supported by Traineeship Data – Rural, Underserved, or Public Health

NAT Attachments (all counted in the 45 page limit):
- Attachment 1 – Accreditation documentation
- Attachment 2 – Approval documentation, if applicable
- Attachment 3 – Biographical Sketch of the Project Director
- Attachment 4 – Health Professions Diversity Statement
- Attachment 5 – Maintenance of Effort Documentation
- Attachments 6-15 – Other Relevant Documents

5. Is the NAT Program still an annual program?

Yes, at this time, the NAT Program will remain an annual formula-based program.

Eligibility, Use of Funds

6. Who is eligible to receive traineeship funds?

US citizens and individuals with permanent US residence visas who are 1) a Registered Nurse enrolled full-time in a master's or doctoral nurse anesthesia program and 2) who are eligible to sit for the CRNA certification exam upon program completion.

7. How can NAT funds be used?

Traineeship funds can be used for full or partial tuition and fees, required textbooks / electronic books (e-books), and the reasonable living expense (stipend) of the trainee.

Travel expenses are not an allowable cost. The grantee (organization) is responsible for the appointment of eligible students as trainees. The grantee is responsible for monitoring the academic success or failure of each trainee and for the termination of a trainee.

8. How is the $22,000 traineeship award amount per student expended – is there a cap on any of the allowable categories, i.e. textbooks?

The grantee organization is the school; the school disburses the traineeship award to its eligible students. According to the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), students enrolled **full-time** may receive NAT stipend amounts up to $22,000 per year. Schools will determine the award amount for each student in accordance with its calculated award amount and HRSA's guidance and policies. The $22,000 is inclusive of full or partial tuition and fees, required textbooks/e-books and the reasonable living expense. There is no longer a cap on the textbook allowance.

9. If we have a 2-year program, should we be asking for support for both first year and second year students since support has been extended to first year students as well?

Yes, if you have first year students needing support then you can request it.

Performance Measures

10. When you indicate that the NAT Program Tables are not overlapping with the Performance Measures, does this indicate that we do not have to report all of those tables about how many hours students trained in a rural area or how many hours they trained in an underserved area?

No – the NAT Program Tables that were eliminated captured information on trainees and programs including socio-demographics (age and gender, diversity – ethnicity and race/ disadvantaged data). Information on graduates and graduates supported who are employed at clinical practice sites substantially benefiting rural or underserved populations, or in State or local health departments will be reported on NAT Table 2A and NAT Table 2B.

11. What is the due date for the semiannual Performance Measures Report?

Performance data will now be collected for the recently completed academic year for each budget period <u>semiannually</u> through the HRSA EHBs:

<u>The BHPr Performance Management Handbook (BPMH) Performance Data Collection System:</u>

- Opens: Feb 10, 2014 (expected)
- Closes: Mar 10, 2014

Grantees will be asked to enter their first 6 months (July 1, 2013 to Dec 31, 2013) of data at that time. You will have one month to complete the report.   E-mail notification will be sent as a reminder that a report is due, including instructions on how to access and provide the report through the EHB System. A Technical Assistance session is being planned for January 2014.

Reporting Schedule:

- Performance Period #1:   July 1 through December 31   Due date January 31
- Performance Period #2:   January 1 through June 30   Due date July 31

Fiscal

12. What is the Maintenance of Effort Requirement?

Please see pages 6 and 14 in the FOA. For the Maintenance of Effort requirement you are to document that the funds that you are requesting through the NAT award will not supplant money that your institution is already spending on your program. You cannot receive Federal monies and use them to displace your budgetary monies.

13. Are award amounts based solely on the student programs or the actual cost per student by a factor in the amount awarded?

The award amount to the eligible institution is based on the formula indicated on Page 4 under Section II.2 Award Information – Summary of Funding in the FOA.

Other

14. Where can I find information on Health Professional Shortage (HPSAs) areas?

Reference page 17 of the FOA: More information about HPSAs is available on the following websites: http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/ and http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/ .